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Appl. No. 10/719,786
Docket No. 9431
Amdt. dated 5 June 2007
Reply to Office Action mailed on 7 March 2007
Customer No. 27752

REMARKS

Claim Status

Claims 5-7, 9-11, 13, and 18-20 are pending in the present application. Applicant's attorney would like to thank the Examiner for the telephonic interview of 4 June 2007. During which the 35 U.S.C. §102 rejection based on Schoelling was discussed. No additional claims fee is believed to be due.

Claim 13 has been amended replace the words "said first surface area being different than said second surface area," with the words "said second surface area lacking depressions and protuberances." Support for the amendment is found in Figures 1 and 2, and on page 6, lines 29-32 of the specification.

It is believed these changes do not involve any introduction of new matter. Consequently, entry of these changes is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 USC §102 Over Schoelling (U.S. 2002/0151859)

Claims 5-7, 9-11, 13 and 18-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Schoelling.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. Claim 1 comprises a second surface area, wherein the second surface area lacks depressions and protuberances. In contrast, the longitudinal ribs of the tampon disclosed in Schoelling run along the entire length of the tampon.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 5-7, 9-11, 13, and 18-20 are novel in view of Schoelling.

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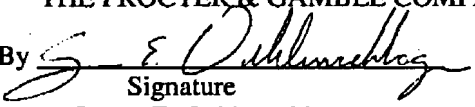
Conclusion

This response represents an earnest effort to place the present application in proper form and to distinguish the invention as claimed from the applied reference. In view of the foregoing, entry of the amendment presented herein, reconsideration of this application, and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY

By


Signature

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Date: 5 June 2007
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